

IN THE CLAIMS:

A listing of the status of all claims, which replaces all prior listings, in the present patent application is provided below.

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) A system for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments, each constituted by a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, comprising:

an equity module, tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium, to receive an income generating payment and to output a periodic retirement income payment amount; and

an adjustment module, tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium, ~~that for~~ comparing-compares the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount so as to generate a difference value, the difference value being a difference between the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount; ~~and for~~ outputting-outputs to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount;

~~with the adjustment module storing~~ aggregates the difference value with a balance, stored in an adjustment account, the adjustment account associated with the user and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, ~~and in an adjustment account if the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount~~

the difference value being a positive value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value increments the adjustment account; and

the difference value being a negative value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value decrements the adjustment account.

31. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the equity module comprises at least one of a variable annuity module, a fixed annuity module, a mutual funds module, a variable life module, a single premium immediate annuity (SPIA) module, and an immediate variable annuity module.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the periodic retirement income payment may be calculated at one of the following annually, biennially, semi-annually, quarterly, monthly, bi-monthly, semi-monthly, weekly, and bi-weekly.

33. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount may be calculated at one of the following annually, biennially, semi-annually, quarterly, monthly, bi-monthly, semi-monthly, weekly, and bi-weekly.

34. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the adjustment account balance is recovered by the performance of a unitized investment trust or an index.

35. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is predetermined by the user.

36. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is predetermined by the total premium payments made by the user during an accumulation period.

37-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the output of the adjustment module to the user is based on the balance in the adjustment account.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the output of the adjustment module to the user is equal to the periodic retirement income payment amount, if the adjustment account balance is zero and the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the income generating payment comprises a plurality of predetermined scheduled premium payments.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the income generating payment comprises a plurality of predetermined premium payments.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the income generating payment comprises a single premium payment.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the income generating payment comprises a plurality of premium payments.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is determined by the amount and timing of the premium payments made by the user during the accumulation period.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the adjustment account balance is forgiven as a death benefit during the annuitization period or at the expiration of the certain period, whichever occurs later.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30 wherein an administrator retains a secured interest in future periodic retirement income payment amounts, if the adjustment account reflects a balance.

54. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 52 wherein the administrator is a financial services carrier.

55. (**Currently amended**) A method, implemented on a computer using a tangibly embodied computer readable medium, for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments each constituted by a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, comprising:

receiving an income generating payment at an equity module;

outputting a periodic retirement income payment amount, using the equity module, and wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is defined by the user;

comparing the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, using an adjustment module, so as to generate a difference value, the difference value being a difference between the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount;

outputting, using the adjustment module, to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, and

the adjustment module storing a balance, associated with the user and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, in an adjustment account, the balance being an aggregation of a prior balance and the difference value, and if the periodic retirement

income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount

the difference value being a positive value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value increments the adjustment account; and

the difference value being a negative value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value decrements the adjustment account.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54 further comprising the step of forgiving the adjustment account balance as a death benefit during the annuitization period or at the expiration of the certain period, whichever occurs later.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the equity module comprises and equity indexed annuities or an equity indexed immediate annuities.

58. **(Currently amended)** A system for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments each constituted by a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, comprising:

an equity module, tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium, to receive an income generating payment and to output a periodic retirement income payment amount;

an adjustment module, tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium, for: (1) comparing the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount so as to generate a difference value, the difference value being a difference between the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, (2) determining if the

periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, and (3) outputting to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, with the adjustment module storing a balance, associated with the user and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, in an adjustment account, the balance being an aggregation of a prior balance of the adjustment account and the difference value; and ~~when the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount; and~~

the difference value being a positive value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value increments the adjustment account; and

the difference value being a negative value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value decrements the adjustment account.

59. **(Currently amended)** A method, implemented on a computer using a tangibly embodied computer readable medium, for providing a user with a plurality of guaranteed minimum retirement income payments each constituted by a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, comprising:

receiving an income generating payment at an equity module;

outputting a periodic retirement income payment amount, using the equity module, and

wherein the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount is defined by the user;

comparing the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount using an adjustment module so as to generate a difference value, the difference value being a difference between the periodic retirement income payment amount and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount;

determining if the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than, equal to, or less than a guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount;

outputting, using the adjustment module, to the user at least the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, the adjustment module storing a balance, associated with the user and the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, in an adjustment account, the balance being an aggregation of a prior balance and the difference value; ~~when the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount and~~

the difference value being a positive value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is less than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value increments the adjustment account; and

the difference value being a negative value if the periodic retirement income payment amount is greater than the guaranteed minimum periodic retirement income payment amount, such that the difference value decrements the adjustment account.